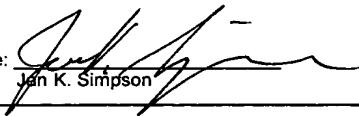


I hereby certify that this document is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as Express Mail, Airbill No. EK102706893US, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, DC 20231, on the date shown below.

Dated: 1-31-00

Signature: 

Jon K. Simpson

Docket No.: P01426US2  
(PATENT)

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:  
William T. Carpenter

Application No.: Not Yet Assigned

Group Art Unit: 3673

Filed: January 31, 2001

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

For: **METHOD OF MODIFYING THE AXIS OF  
ROTATION OF THE EARTH**

### FIRST PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

### REMARKS

In an Office Action mailed August 1, 2000 for Application S/N 09/382,052, the Examiner stated that the Applicant has not complied with one or more conditions for receiving benefit of an earlier filing date of Application S/N 08/920,343 under 35 U.S.C. 120. This is in error for the following reasons.

The '343 application was filed on August 27, 1997. An Office Action was mailed on August 7, 1998. In response to the Office Action, a CPA was filed on February 8, 1999 along with a three month extension fee. Another Office Action was mailed on February 25, 1999 to which a response was filed on April 26, 1999. A second Office